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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/773,331	02/09/2004	Chih-Kang Wu	BHT-3092-415	8950
7590 06/05/2006			EXAMINER	
BRUCE H. TROXELL SUITE 1404 5205 LEESBURG PIKE FALLS CHURCH, VA 22041			CRANSON JR, JAMES W	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2875	

DATE MAILED: 06/05/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/773,331

Applicant(s)

WU, CHIH-KANG

Examiner

James W. Cranson

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 April 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 04/20/2006 has been entered.

Priority

Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-4 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 1 and 2 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 6,902,300 B2 to Lee.

USPN 6,902,300 B2 to Lee discloses a back light module (figure 3) comprising a lamp case (10) having a bottom wall and a top open side, a plurality of lamp tubes (30) fixedly

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mounted inside the lamp case, a diffuser board (50) fastened to the top open side of lamp case and suspending above lamp tubes and support members (60) stopped at the bottom of lamp case to support diffuser against deformation (column 4, lines 34-38). USPN 6,902,300 B2 to Lee does not have the support members formed integral with a bottom wall of diffusing board.

In other words, USPN 6,902,300 B2 to Lee discloses the claimed invention except for having the support members formed integral with a bottom wall of diffusing board. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate having the support members formed integral with a bottom wall of diffusing board in USPN 6,902,300 B2 to Lee because it has been held that lacking any criticality, to make prior art parts integral does not make the claimed invention patentable over that prior art (*In re Larson*, 144 USPQ 347 [CCPA 1965]). The reason for making the parts integral is to reduce the number of parts.

Regarding claim 2, according to claim 1, wherein bottom support members are perpendicularly extended from the bottom wall of diffuser board. The axes of the supports in Lee are perpendicularly extended from the bottom wall (figure 4).

Regarding claims 3 and 4, both according to claim 1, wherein support members are injection molded with diffuser board in integrity and that diffuser board is made of acrylic.

Claim 3 and 4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over USPN 6,902,300 B2 to Lee in view of USPN 6,652,109 B2 to Nakamura.

Lee does not disclose that support members are injection molded and with diffuser board in integrity or that diffuse board is made of acrylic.

Nakamura in a surface light emission device and method of manufacture of the same teaches both the use of injection molding in a back light module and the use of acrylics. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to incorporate the teaching of Nakamura in USPN 6,902,300 B2 to Lee and injection mold the support member and diffusion board from an acrylic resin. The reason is that it well known in the illumination art to injection mold back light device components from an acrylic resin as shown by Nakamura and Nakamura teaches in column 5, lines 7-8, that any material having rigidity that can support the diffusion plate may be used as the support portion

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure are US 2002/0113924 A1 to Saito et al. and USPN 6,407,781 to Kitada.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James W. Cranson whose telephone number is 571-272-2368. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 8:30A.M.- 5:00P.M..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sandy O'Shea can be reached on 571-272-2378. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.




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